education at all levels. These include vocationalisation of education at secondary level, consolidation of the infrastructure in the existing Universities and colleges, redesigning courses and improving their relevance, strengthening of science and mathematics education at all levels, training of teachers, etc. Several programmes are under implementation in fulfilment of these objectives.

(c) and (d) The Department of Science and Technology has been supporting Research and Development Programmes in frontline and emerging areas of Chemistry and in the areas of composites. The funds for these programmes have been stepped up to the extent of 30 per cent in the case of research in Chemistry. As against an investment of Rs. 178 lakhs on research in composites in the VI Plan, the expenditure during the first 3 years of VII Plan is Rs. 161 lakhs. As for Ceramics, though no investment has been made, the Department of Science and Technology has taken the initiative in preparing State of-the-Art-Report in 6 emerging areas in the field of ceramics.

(e) The Science and Engineering Research Council was set up by the Department of Science and Technology in 1974 to advise that Department in the implementation of a research promotion scheme in science and engineering. There is at present no proposal to set up a National Foundation to fund research programmes in Science and Engineering.

Bookwriters and Translators employed by Central Hindi Directorate, NBT and NCERT

2931. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) what are the details of book-writers and Translators employed by the Central Hindi Directorate, National Book Trust and National Council of Education Research and Training during the last three years and the nature of jobs assigned to them;

(b) whether these book-writers and translators have not been assigned any jobs; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what action Government propose to take in the matter and by when translation and writing job is proposed to be assigned to them ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (c) Details of bookwriters and translators employed by the Central Hindi Directorate, National Book Trust and National Council of Educational Research and Training are given below :

Central Hindi Directorate (CHD):

Book writers are not employed by the Central Hindi Directorate. Only for vetting|translation of the Hindi Edition of "UNESCO Doot" (Hindi version of Unesco Courier), the Central Hindi Directorate utilizes the services of some eminent translators on *ad hoc* basis depending upon the requirements.

National Book Trust, India (NBT):

National Book Trust, India does not employ book writers. and translators for writing and translating books because publication of books is a continuous process and as and when a topic|subject is selected on the advice of the language|series advisory panel|committee, a suitable writer or translator is identified and work is assigned to him.

National Council of Educational Research and Training :

NCERT does not maintain any permanent list of bookwriters for developing materials of the text books and other publications. However, for each text book, a writer is identified.

The Council has not maintained any permanent list of translators for translation work. During the last three years only one supplementary reader entitled "Science and Man" has been got translated from one of the translators.